GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Norms of Bank Branches
Maragatham Smt. K.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to relax bank branch norms, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to allow the business correspondents to provide minimum 4 hours of service for 5 days a week be treated as a full service branch, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RBI has made it mandatory for the banks to put up ATMs commensurate with the number of branches they have in each town and city; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE FINANCE MINISTER

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *59 (19th Position) for 18th November, 2016 by Shrimati K. Maragatham, M.P., regarding "Norms of Bank Branches".

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A 'banking outlet' has been defined as "a fixed point service delivery unit, manned by either bank's staff o r its Business Correspondent where services of acceptance of deposits, encashment of cheques/cash withdrawal or lending of money are provided for a minimum of 4 hours per day for at least five days a week. It carries uniform signage with name of the bank and authorisation from it, contact details of the controlling authorities and complaint escalation mechanism.

(c) and (d) All Scheduled Commercial Banks {excluding Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)} have been given general permission for installation of ATMs at branches and extension counters.

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